



National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies

Statement of Collaboration

The Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) have a long and successful record of working together to achieve the shared goal of clean and safe water. Both organizations are committed to providing their respective members with strong federal leadership on issues that impact their daily operations. The leaders of both AMWA and NACWA have recognized and embraced the value collaboration provides and the growing complexity of the nation's water-related challenges underscores the need for continued cooperation among the two organizations.

Both the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Clean Water Act (CWA) seek to protect public health, ensure environmental protection, and guarantee a sustainable water future. Despite these common objectives, the legislative, regulatory, and legal issues that arise under the two water-related statutes are often unique. This has and will continue to necessitate tailored advocacy on many issues, but where appropriate, NACWA and AMWA have and will continue to work closely and collaboratively to best serve their members and the broader water sector.

Over the past several years, NACWA and AMWA together have, for example, successfully:

- Planned and executed a joint conference on the CWA/SDWA intersection
- Convened an experts panel on emerging contaminants
- Organized and ran a summit on climate and resiliency and led the White House National Infrastructure Advisory Committee's Study Group on water resiliency
- Collaborated on countless letters, reports, and policy statements relating to tax exempt municipal bonds and other funding and financing issues
- Commissioned and published a joint report on the cost impacts of climate change for drinking water and clean water utilities
- Engaged in a long-term partnership, along with other water sector organizations, to develop and promote Effective Utility Management attributes and keys to management success
- Conceived of and managed the joint Water and Wastewater Leadership Center

- Worked together to advance shared legislative goals on funding and financing issues, such as WIFIA, SRF, etc., but also specific issues, including reuse, unfunded mandates, etc.
- Worked together in the wake of the crisis in Flint, Michigan and are partnering on issues associated with affordability and low-income household rate issues.

Despite the common interest in many areas, the drinking water and clean water communities continue to face real and very different challenges going forward. At some point, as it has in the past, these differences may put our respective members on opposite sides of an issue. This potential for conflict stresses the importance of continued collaboration. Together we have already identified areas where we can continue to work together, including:

- Expanding the current Water Resources Utility of the Future effort nationwide, to include drinking water and clean water utilities in an effort to move toward the Industry of the Future
- Continued work on climate change and resiliency
- New and innovative efforts to explore the potential for water reuse to enhance and increase the resiliency of current domestic water supplies
- Efforts to ensure our respective utility members can fully take advantage of policies like integrated planning and sound affordability determinations.

As the Chief Executive Officers for AMWA and NACWA, we commit to engaging in an ongoing dialogue to explore new and more innovative ways for the two organizations to collaborate in those areas where it is appropriate, to cut down on redundancy wherever possible, and to maintain open lines of communication to ensure a full understanding of each other's respective interests.



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